

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR



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Governor's Main Street Grants Create 260 Jobs

Program Supports Small Businesses Across the State

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue announced today that seven communities will receive more than \$969,000 through the state's Main Street Solutions Fund. The small businesses that benefit from the Main Street Solutions grants will create or retain a minimum of 119 permanent and 57 part-time jobs in addition to 84 construction jobs, according to the grant applications.

For every \$1 invested by the state, an additional \$4.21 will be invested by the local communities, bringing the total public/private investments to just over \$4 million. These funds will be used to provide direct support to North Carolina small businesses with revitalization activities that include commercial building rehabilitation, façade improvements, LEED certification energy efficiency and code improvements.

"Small businesses create more jobs than any other part of the economy, and we are helping to bring those jobs to our communities," Gov. Perdue said. "These grants will support some of the most creative and innovative economic development work being done today. Main Streets can be at the heart of North Carolina's economic recovery with the right support and investment. The small businesses and other economic partners in our downtown areas will be stronger for this important investment."

Gov. Perdue knows that main street is the backbone of the small town local economy. Developing main street in small towns is key to spurring economic growth in communities that have been hit hard by the global economic recession. Gov. Perdue's Main Street Solutions program helps increase economic activity through public/private redevelopment, historic preservation and small business assistance. Today's announcement is the second round of funding through the Main Street Solutions program. To date, the program has handed out nearly \$3 million in grants with an expected \$13 million in additional public/private investments.